COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE BILLING) ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE SERVICE) CASE NO. 335

ORDER

On May 21, 1990, the Commission issued an Order establishing this investigation into the billing practices for interLATA foreign exchange services. All local exchange carriers and AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inc. ("AT&T") were required to file information and comments describing these billing Several local exchange carriers indicated that they have had no foreign exchange customers and by Order dated August 14. 1990, were excused from further participation in this proceeding. That Order also requested additional information from the remaining carriers. In response to that Order, Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. ("Ballard") clarified that it too has had no foreign exchange customers and requested that it be excused from participating in this proceeding. The Commission finds that Ballard's request should be granted and that its name should be removed from the service list.

Also in response to the August 14, 1990 Order, Contel of Kentucky, Inc. ("Contel") indicated that it has postponed its implementation of billing changes to charge the end-user for Feature Group A usage and will continue billing AT&T for Feature

Group A usage until this case is resolved. As AT&T's tariff filing to reprice and restructure its channel services tariff, which incorporated a change of Feature Group A billing from AT&T to the customer, was approved effective June 1, 1990, Contel should bill the end-user for access charges associated with the open end of AT&T's interLATA foreign exchange service effective that same date. The form of these access charges, i. e., Feature Group A or local business rate, should be in accordance with Contel's tariff. Contel is expected to allow a reasonable period for payment of any back-billed charges and should refund or credit AT&T for any erroneously billed charges.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- 1. Ballard be and hereby is excused from further participation in this proceeding and its name shall be removed from the service list unless it notifies the Commission of its desire to remain a party within 20 days of the date of this Order.
- 2. Contel shall bill end-user(s) for access charges associated with the open end of AT&T's interLATA foreign exchange service as described in this Order and shall file a verified statement of the amounts it must back-bill and the schedule for back-billing within 30 days of the date of this Order.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 4th day of October, 1990.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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Vice Chairman

Dumissioner

ATTEST:

Executive Director